

Message Text

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70

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 /082 W

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R 090344Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2813

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 3320

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, RP, ILO

SUBJECT: ILO: U.S. LETTER OF INTENT TO WITHDRAW

1. LABOR SECRETARY BLAS OPLE, WHO VISITED GENEVA LATTER PART FEBRUARY, TOLD LABATT ON MARCH 8 THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED U.S. LETTER OF INTENT TO WITHDRAW WITH ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL BLANCHARD. OPLE SAID ILO WAS IN PROCESS CUTTING BACK PROGRAMS IN ANTICIPATION REDUCTION OF U.S. FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS. HE NOTED OBVIOUS CONCERN IN ILO THAT ANY EVENTUAL U.S. WITHDRAWAL MIGHT WELL LEAVE FIELD TO SOVIETS AND THEIR SUPPORTERS.

2. LABATT EXPRESSED CONCERN AT WHAT APPEARED BE EXCESSIVELY PESSIMISTIC ILO ATTITUDE REGARDING U.S. POSITION AS DESCRIBED BY OPLE, AND WONDERED IF ORGANIZATION NOT CONTEMPLATING ANY POSTIVE STEPS IN EFFORT RECONCILE DIFFERENCES. OPLE REPLIED THAT HE HAD AS MATTER OF FACT SUGGESTED THAT EITHER GOVERNING BODY OR DIRECTOR GENERAL ESTABLISH PANEL OF DISTINGUISHED LABOR EXPERTS TO LOOK INTO MATTER U.S.-ILO RELATIONS. SUCH A BLUE RIBBON PANEL, HE BELIEVED, COULD IDENTIFY THOSE POINTS OF CONTENTION WHICH POSSIBLE LENT THEMSELVES TO SOME TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION TO U.S. VIEWS. OPLE DID NOT ELABORATE ON BLANCHARD'S RESPONSE TO THIS SUGGESTION. OPLE ALSO MENTIONED HE HAD TALKED TO DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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GENERAL MCDONALD.

3. COMMENT: AS PRESIDENT OF 60TH ILO CONFERENCE, OPLE'S
VIEWS ON U.S.-ILO RELATIONS WILL CARRY CONSIDERABLE
WEIGHT IN THIRD WORLD CIRCLES, ESPECIALLY IN ASIA. HE
HOPES U.S.-ILO DIFFERENCES CAN BE RESOLVED. EMBASSY WILL DEEP
DEPARTMENT INFORMED ON HIS THOUGHTS ON THIS MATTER
AS THEY DEVELOP.
SULLIVAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: N/A
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